

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045765
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, EFIN, ETRD, SHUM, OVIP (CEAUSESCU, NICOLAE), RO

SUBJECT: COUNSELOR NIMETZ' MEETING WITH PUNGAN, FEB. 14

1. PUNGAN'S PRE-LUNCHEON MEETING WITH COUNSELOR NIMETZ
FOCUSSED ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE CEAUSESCU VISIT IN APRIL.
BEGINNING WITH THE BY NOW FAMILIAR REFRAIN THAT THE VISIT
SHOULD BE "AT A HIGHER LEVEL" THAN BEFORE, PUNGAN SAID
CEAUSESCU IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT
CARTER AND WILL WISH TO DISCUSS THE WIDE RANGE OF INTER-
NATIONAL AND BILATERAL ISSUES. POSSIBLE TOPICS SUGGESTED
BY BOTH SIDES INCLUDED THE SITUATION IN EUROPE, DISARMAMENT,
THE MIDDLE EAST, BILATERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES, RELATIONS WITH
THE LDCS INCLUDING US-ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN THIRD COUN-
TRIES, THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, THE UN SPECIAL
SESSION ON DISARMAMENT, THE VIENNA MBFR TALKS, AND
NUCLEAR ISSUES. IN ADDITION, PUNGAN SAID THAT PRESIDENTS
CEAUSESCU AND CARTER WILL HAVE AN "INTERESTING" DISCUSSION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 045765

ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THAT CEAUSESCU WILL WANT TO EXPLORE
WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN WORK TOGETHER IN THIS FIELD, FOR
EXAMPLE, THROUGH EXCHANGES AND YOUTH PROGRAMS.

2. PUNGAN SAID THAT ROMANIA WANTS TO SEE MORE U.S. COMPAN-
IES INVESTING IN ROMANIA. ALSO, NOTING THAT ROMANIA IS
STILL A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, PUNGAN ASKED WHETHER THE U.S.

COULD EXTEND "FINANCIAL FACILITIES" TO SUPPORT ROMANIAN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. HE SAID THAT ROMANIA IS INTERESTED IN SOMETHING BEYOND AGRICULTURAL CREDITS AND AT TERMS BETTER THAN COMMERCIAL RATES. PUNGAN SAID HE RECOGNIZED THAT PERHAPS THE U.S. CANNOT EXTEND SUCH CREDITS IN AN "OFFICIAL" WAY, BUT SOMETHING MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. NIMETZ RESPONDED THAT, AS PUNGAN KNEW, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO DO THIS, BUT WE WILL EXPLORE WHAT AVENUES MAY BE OPEN.

3. TURNING TO DOCUMENTS THAT MIGHT BE SIGNED DURING THE CEAUSESCU VISIT, PUNGAN SAID THAT IN THE ECONOMIC FIELDS, THE ROMANIAN SIDE DOES NOT SEE WHAT NEW GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS COULD BE SIGNED. HOWEVER, THE ROMANIAN SIDE WILL TRY TO PREPARE SOME COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS TO BE "FINALIZED" AT THE TIME OF THE VISIT. PUNGAN SAID THE GOR WILL BE SENDING COMMERCIAL DELEGATIONS HERE SOON, MENTIONING A TEAM TO BE HEADED BY THE MINISTER OF MACHINE BUILDING. AMBASSADOR NICOLAE WAS URGED TO KEEP THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE INFORMED. PUNGAN SAID THE ROMANIAN SIDE WOULD LIKE TO ISSUE A JOINT DECLARATION (A SIGNED POLITICAL DOCUMENT) AS WELL AS A PRESS COMMUNIQUE DURING THE CEAUSESCU VISIT. NIMETZ RESPONDED THAT IT IS NOT PRESIDENT CARTER'S PREFERENCE TO ISSUE DECLARATIONS OF POLITICAL PRINCIPLES, BUT WE WILL DISCUSS THIS FURTHER WITH THE WHITE HOUSE. PUNGAN REPLIED THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 045765

THIS HAD BEEN THE PRACTICE WITH PREVIOUS U.S. ADMINISTRATIONS.

4. PUNGAN SAID THAT DURING HIS WASHINGTON STAY, CEAUSESCU WOULD LIKE MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF THE CABINET AND OF CONGRESS. CEAUSESCU DID NOT WISH TO TRAVEL TOO FAR IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT THE ITINERARY SHOULD PROBABLY INCLUDE A SOUTHERN LEG. PUNGAN SUGGESTED VISITS TO COMBUSTION ENGINEERING AND TEXAS INSTRUMENTS IN DALLAS, A VISIT TO A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND PERHAPS SOMETHING NEW IN OILFIELD EQUIPMENT FOR OFFSHORE DRILLING. A MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FOR PUNGAN TO PURSUE THESE IDEAS IN MORE DETAIL WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL DOBELLE. VANCE

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